



**U.S. Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney's Office
Western District of Texas**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**FEDERAL GRAND JURY INDICTS THREE
FOR ILLEGALLY TRANSPORTING ALIENS RESULTING IN DEATH**

United States Attorney Johnny Sutton announced today that a federal grand jury in San Antonio returned a four-count indictment charging three Mexican Nationals with illegally transporting aliens resulting in death.

The indictment charges 29-year-old Heriberto Garcia-Herrera, Hugo Millan-Coria and Miguel Angel Borzani-Gutierrez with one count of conspiracy to transport illegal aliens resulting in death and three substantive illegal transportation counts.

According to court records, the three defendants were involved in a scheme to smuggle nine illegal aliens into the United States near Piedras Negras, Coahuila, Mexico, on March 3, 2004. Once across the border, the smuggled aliens were led to a predetermined pick up area along Highway 57 for transport to Houston, Texas. Zavalla County Sheriff's deputies attempted to stop Garcia-Herrera, the driver of a pickup truck transporting the smuggled aliens, for a traffic violation near La Pryor. Garcia-Herrera refused to stop and a lengthy, high-speed chase ensued. At approximately 9:30pm, Texas Department of Public Safety troopers on Highway 57 in Frio County used spikes in the road to stop the truck. As Garcia-Herrera turned onto Interstate 35, he lost control of the truck. Ivan Hernandez-Ramirez, a Mexican National, was killed and several others were injured in the resulting crash.

The defendants remain in federal custody. The penalties upon conviction are imprisonment up to life or death.

This case is being investigated by the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Assistant United States Attorney Kelly Loving is prosecuting this case on behalf of the Government.

An indictment is a formal accusation of criminal conduct, not evidence of guilt. The defendants are presumed innocent unless and until convicted through due process of law.

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